



Thirteenth Sunday

after Pentecost

Sunday, August 23, 2026

9:00 am

Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise the God of new life!

Bulletins are available to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary. We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns. An asterisk * indicates when you are invited to stand, as you are comfortable.

All are welcome to come forward for communion. The ushers will guide you. Juice and gluten-free wafers are available; please let your server know if you need either of these.

A basket for offerings is at the rear of the sanctuary.

A children’s table is located at the back of the sanctuary, where you’ll find some books and activities to help children feel more at home in worship.

Serving in Worship Today

Lay Minister	Ted Lockmiller
Organist	Gerry Mass
Preacher	Jen Lasher-Dobush
Lector	Paula Hohenstein
Crucifer	Adrian Bernardo
Offering Bearer	Maggie Hernandez
Parish Administrator	Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vanessa Petrakos



2026 Rummage Sale

The church rummage sale will be on Thursday September 10th, Friday September 11th from 10 am –3/4 pm and Saturday, September 12th, from 10am to 1 pm.

Donations can be brought from Monday August 17 - Thursday September 10 . All donations should be put on the stage in the hall, please do not put them anywhere else. Let Jen in the office know if you need to get into building during the day to drop off donations.

Tues 9/8 and Tues 9/9 we will need workers to help set up the hall. Starting 10:00. If you haven;t already been ap-proached, please let Barb or Charlotte know if you can help.

Parish Calendar: 8/23/2026

Sunday	9:00 am Sunday Eucharist 10:30am Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School Hour
Monday	6:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting in Parish Hall
Tuesday	6:00-8:00 pm Women's AA Meeting in Parish Hall
Wednesday	6:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting in Parish Hall
Thursday	6:00-8:00 pm NAMI Meeting in Parish Hall
Friday	6:30-8:30pm GOD AA Meeting in Parish Hall
Saturday	11:00am-12:00pm NCMBC Bible Study Hall 3:00 –5:00pm AA Meeting in Parlor 6:00-8:00pm CA Meeting in Parish Hall
Sunday	10:00 am Sunday Eucharist Joint service at Master Luncheon to follow, Master will provide Hot Dogs and Hamburgers, we are asked to provide sides & desserts.

Office Hours

Monday Office Closed
Tuesday 10:00-3:00pm
Wednesday 10:00-3:00pm
Thursday 10:00-3:00pm
Friday 10:00-12:00pm
Saturday Office Closed
Sunday 8:00 10:30 am

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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost— August 23 , 2026

***With One Voice, setting five:** This summer we are worshiping using the Bread of Life setting, a beloved liturgical setting that first appeared in With One Voice, a supplement to our Lutheran hymnal. Known for its simple, flowing melodies and accessible congregational responses, this setting has been sung in Lutheran congregations for decades.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

***Confession & Forgiveness**

While we may yearn to be like Jesus, we know that in our hotheaded choices, our frantic lives, our impetuous words, we are really like Peter. But like Peter, we can confess Christ as our Lord, speaking of our need for God's saving presence in our lives.

God of the lost, we look for you in all the wrong places, and wonder why we cannot find you. We seek the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless. We strive to sit at the head of the table while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the race, while you are cheering on those in last place.

In forgiving us, God of new life, you transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks. In mercy, grace, and forgiveness, our hearts, our lives, our spirits are transfigured and made new. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gathering Hymn: Be Thou My Vision WOV # 776**



Text: Irish 8th–10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.
Music: SLANE, Irish tune

***Greeting:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Dismissal**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praying Together

... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating:
Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Vince Besesdnjak, Joan Clarke, Chuck Dickey, Bill Flick, Dan Fleming, Barbara Fossa, Alan Fugo and family, Donna Franz, Risa Gabor, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Jane Gradert, Marge (Shriver) Katarzynski, Dorrie Kearns, Dylan King, Karen Kipfsthul, Elaine Knerem, Keary Knerem, Phyllis Nemeth, Patti Novak, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Ginny Robinson, Claudia Senderak, Steve Senderak, Claude, Starks, Arlene Stoltz, Barb Toth, Verl Williamson, Maud Wright, Charlotte Zaranka, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Lois Williams, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family.

Last Week

General Fund receipts for week ending 8/16/2026: \$

*Sending Hymn: Blessed Assurance WOV # 699



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

*Hymn of Praise



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est;



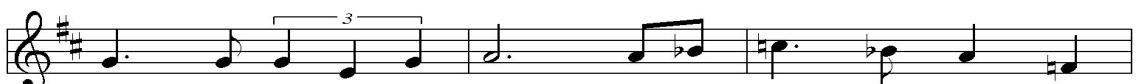
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



II Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the



right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
II

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther, A - men.

C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

*Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and

forever. **Amen**

***Offertory Hymn: Accept. O, Lord, the Gifts We Bring**
WOV # 759



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

***Offertory Prayer**

Let us pray. Merciful God, **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,

and for my arm they hope.
⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 138

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with ¹ my whole heart;
before the gods I will ¹ sing your praise.
² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- ¹bove all
things.**
³ When I called, you ¹ answered me;
you increased my ¹ strength within me.
⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise ¹ you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words ¹ of your mouth.**
⁵ They will sing of the ways ¹ of the LORD,
that great is the glory ¹ of the LORD.
⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares ¹ for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty ¹ from afar.**
⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you ¹ keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right ¹ hand shall save me.
⁸ **You will make good your pur- ¹pose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon
the works ¹ of your hands.**

God, **receive our prayer.**

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

***Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church,
those in need, and all of God's creation.

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built.
Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they
gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland
and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your crea-
tion. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful

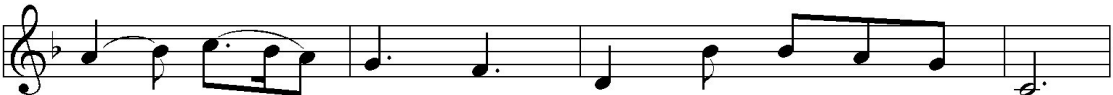
Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of
God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and ac-
ceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not
be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of
the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is
good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to
think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think
with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that
God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and
not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many,
are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of an-
other. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us:
prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teach-
er, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sin-
cerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you O Lord.**

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: We Walk by Faith Not By Sight WOV # 675



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you



none e'er spoke: “My peace be with you here.”
we re - joice, and cry, “My Lord and God!”
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: DUNLAP’S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816